

CHIP ANNOUNCES EXTENDED DENTAL PLAN



The Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) offers an Extended Dental Plan beginning October 1, 2007 for services received on or after that date. This new program provides payment for dental services in addition to the CHIP basic dental plan. To be eligible for the Extended Dental Plan (EDP) a CHIP child must have significant dental needs which exceed the maximum payment by the basic plan.

What's covered by the CHIP Extended Dental Plan (EDP)?

All services currently covered by the CHIP basic dental plan are covered by the EDP. The EDP just increases the amount CHIP can pay for dental services. The following are **not** covered by either CHIP dental plan: orthodontic services; maxillofacial prosthetics; implant services; treatment of fractures; or other repair procedures.

How much does CHIP pay for dental services?

The basic dental plan pays up to \$350 per benefit year (October - September) for dental services. CHIP dentists provide a 15% discount to CHIP patients which means a CHIP child has coverage for basic dental services valued up to \$412 each benefit year.

The EDP maximum payment to a CHIP dentist for a child who qualifies for the EDP is \$1,000. Because of the 15% discount from your CHIP dentist, a child has coverage for EDP services valued up to \$1,176 each benefit year.

When combined, the maximum CHIP basic dental and Extended Dental Plan payment to the dentist is \$1,350 per benefit year or \$1,588 in dental services.

How do I apply for the CHIP Extended Dental Plan?

- Your child's dentist completes the "Request for Extended Dental Benefits" form and submits it to CHIP. The form includes a treatment plan with the services your child needs and the estimated costs.
- CHIP is mailing an informational packet to all CHIP dentists at the end of September 2007. It includes information about the EDP and the "Request for Extended Dental Benefits" form is enclosed in the packet. All Extended Dental Plan information is available on the CHIP website at www.chip.mt.gov. EDP information is listed under the "Family" and "Provider" Resource tabs.
- CHIP will notify you and your dentist if your child is approved for EDP services.

When does the Extended Dental Plan start?

- CHIP will pay for approved services received on or after October 1, 2007.

Who do I contact if I need more information?

Call CHIP Dental Manager Barb Arnold at (406) 444-7046 or 1-877- 543-7669 ext 7046 or you can also e-mail her at barnold2@mt.gov.